

REMARKS

Claims 44-48, and 50-67 are currently pending. In the accompanying amendment claims 44, 45, and 63 have been amended. The amendments to the claim are supported by the claims, specification, and drawings as originally filed. On account of the foregoing listed support for the amendments to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claim do not add new matter.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 45, and 47 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Deucher, et. al. (US Patent Number 5610968). Applicants, however, respectfully disagree with the Examiner in this regard.

For example, claim 44, as amended, includes the following limitation:

a fan (538) positioned to control a ratio of air flow from an air inlet duct (526) in flow communication with the air inlet opening (522) and an air return duct (536) in flow communication with the air outlet opening (524) so that the confines of the housing are at a higher pressure than externally of the housing when the fan draws air into the housing.

(Underlining for emphasis)

Deucher discloses a CT scanner that includes vanes that function as a blower to pump cool air from a plenum (54) into an annular surrounding region (56) (see column 5 lines 10-15). However, Deucher fails to teach or suggest a fan positioned to control a ratio of air flow from an air inlet duct in flow communication with the air inlet opening and an air return duct in flow communication with the air outlet opening, as recited in claim 44.

Accordingly, Deucher fails to teach or suggest all limitations of claim 44 as amended. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 44 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Deucher.

Regarding claim 45, this claim, as amended, includes the following limitation:

a fan (538), wherein, when the fan is operated, air is directed from the fan into the confined volume, from the confined volume into the air passage, and from the air passage through the radiator, and wherein the fan controls a ratio of air flow through an air inlet duct (526) and an air return duct (536) so that air in the confined volume is above atmospheric pressure.

(Underlining for emphasis)

As noted above, Deucher fails to teach or suggest a fan that controls a ratio of air flow through an air inlet duct and an air return duct so that air in the confined volume is above atmospheric pressure.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 45 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Deucher. Given that claims 46-48, and 60-62 depend on claim 45, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not anticipated or rendered obvious by Deucher.

One limitation of claim 63, as amended includes:

operating a fan to control a ratio of air flowing into and out of a housing (512) defined externally of the tunneling and internally of paneling (510) around the tunneling, so that air in the housing is pressurized.

(Underlining for emphasis)

As noted above, Deucher fails to teach or suggest a fan to control a ratio of air flowing into and out of a housing.

Accordingly, Deucher fails to teach or suggest all limitations of claim 63. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 63 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Deucher. Given that claims 64-67 depend on claim 63, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not anticipated or rendered obvious by Deucher.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 44, 50-57, 58, and 63-67 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bailey, et. al. (US Patent Number 5982843) in view of Deucher, et. al.

Applicants, however, respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 44, 50-57, 58 and 63-67 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), on the ground that each of these claims include limitations not taught or suggested by the combination of Bailey and Deucher. For example, neither Bailey, nor Deucher, either individually, or in combination teach or suggest a fan to control a ratio of airflow as recited in claims 44, 50-57, 58, and 63-67.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Deucher and Bailey does not anticipate or render obvious, claims 44, 50-57, 58, and 63-67.

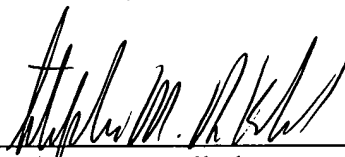
It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, all rejections have been overcome. All pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which is earnestly solicited.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such an extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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